

**ELEVEN UNANIMOUS POLICEMEN.**

**Mysterious Action of a Gas Fixture in the Elizabeth Street Station.**

Sergeant Ryan of the Elizabeth street squad arrested eleven policemen before Commissioner Nichols and Mason yesterday on a charge of disorderly conduct. The accused policemen stood in a row, which extended nearly the width of the trial room, with Sergeant Ryan in front. The Sergeant said that at 2:45 P.M. on Tuesday, Dec. 4, he heard considerable commotion in the sleeping room in the station, where the eleven policemen were on reserve duty, and went to see what the matter was. He found that the gas fixture had been removed and was standing in front of the door, apparently so as to trip up one who entered. He was not tripped, however. Several of the policemen were in bed; the rest were standing or sitting in different parts of the room. Some of them were asleep, singly and individually, who had removed the gas fixture. Each denied that he had done it, and all said that they did not know what was the matter.

Sergeant Ryan went to tell Captain Petty, when he returned the gas fixture was in its place. He asked the men collectively if anyone had taken it. They all denied it, and said that they did not know. As he could not discover what individual had laid violent hands on the fixture, he brought charges against all who were in the room.

"Attention, eleven," said Commissioner Nichols, when Ryan had finished his story. "Do you know who removed the fixture?"

The eleven policemen turned inward. "No."

"Do you know who did?"

"With the exception of the clever policeman, we are all negative."

"Well, Sergeant, you haven't proved your case," said the Commissioner to Ryan.

"I have not, but I have not yet done it," answered the Sergeant, "and they all ought to know who did."

The Court ruled that there was no evidence to prove it. Decision is reserved.

The eleven policemen marched out in single file, grinning.

**CONCERNING THE NEW AQUEDUCT.****The Question whether It shall Tap the Croton or the Quaker Bridge Dam.**

Several gentlemen spoke before the Aqueduct Commission yesterday on the size of the proposed aqueduct, and on the question whether it should be connected with the Croton dam or with the Quaker Bridge dam.

Commissioner O. R. Potter opposed the Quaker Bridge dam, and favored the connection with the Croton dam. The line from Croton dam would be longer than the route from Quaker Bridge, and would cost more. But it could be built in less time, and would be more economical.

Mr. Nichols, of the New York City Water Company, said that the new aqueduct would be 16 per cent of the loss if a fire should break out below Fourth street, and that such damage was as tame by day as by night.

Edmund Driggs, President of the Williamsburgh City Fire Protection Association, said that the new aqueduct was more in danger of a great fire than New York. An adequate supply of water should be obtained in the short time that it would be required.

John M. Murray, of the New York City Fire Department, said that instead of one dam at Quaker Bridge, both he and William H. Webb thought that the aqueduct should tap two dams. A further public hearing will be given to citizens to-day.

**Agassiz Secret Societies.**

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 19.—In response to an invitation of the public to attend a secret meeting last evening attended a meeting in Association Hall to form an Anti-Secret Society League. The delegates convened again this morning under the name of the Christian Convention. All the opening there were less than a dozen persons present. One speaker prayed that the people might be delivered from secret societies, the spirit of human slavery, and that the "spirit of God might open the eyes and enlighten the Christians to the great dangers attending secret societies." Preacher H. Seward and Edwin S. Stanton of Lincoln's Cabinet were anti-Masons. He spoke of Thaddeus Stevens' speech in Congress, and of the Anti-Secret Society League, and said that the league is the evil genius of the United States. He called upon the members of the Convention to disown and denounce that the Masonic League, "which is in active operation in every city and town in the country, and which has thousands and thousands of members, and which is spreading and flourishing there. They will report in favor of us for New York."

The idea is to make the society a mutual benefit organization, to take care of sick members, and to act as a bridge to membership that the fees need not be at all burdensome. There is in the city what is called the American Convention, which has 10,000 members, and thousands who were valuable freemen less than five years or who were slaves.

Driggs said he would attempt to perpetuate a special committee and the old and part-time members of the old fire department, and the fire department will stand upon the same footing together.

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